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THE LAW AND PRACTICE IN BANKRUPTCY UNDER THE NATIONAL BANKRUPTCY ACT OF 1898. By Wm. Miller Collier. Ninth edition, with amendments of 1903, 1906 and 1910, and with decisions to July 1, 1912. By Frank B. Gilbert, of the Albany Bar, Editor of Street Railway Reports, Annotated; Joint Author of Commercial Papers, etc. Matthew Bender & Co., Albany, N. Y., 1912, lxxvii, 1513.

FORMS, RULES, AND GENERAL ORDERS IN BANKRUPTCY, Collected, Revised and Annotated by Marshall S. Hagar, of the New York Bar, and Thomas Alexander, Clerk of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, and United States Commissioner. Matthew Bender & Co., Albany, N. Y., 1910, li, 747.

The publisher of these two admirable books claims that they make up a complete working guide to the law and practice in bankruptcy cases. And the claim is certainly well founded. The standard work of Collier is too well known to require comment; it has been recognized for years as an authority, and is constantly cited by the bench and bar on all points of bankruptcy law. In bringing out the new edition the editor has wisely retained the arbitrary statutory arrangement of the previous editions, which has become familiar to thousands of users and thus justified itself in spite of any possible doubts as to the comparative merits of a logical treatment of the subject. And by careful condensation and mechanical ingenuity it has been possible to retain the valuable feature of treating the whole subject in one volume.

An adequate form-book is a great addition to the tools of the bankruptcy lawyer. The official Forms in Bankruptcy, sixty-three in number established by the Supreme Court of the United States in 1898 (172 U. S. 667-723), were necessarily framed without knowledge of what the development of the law would be under the new statute, and were in many instances not even adapted to the new law. Naturally, additional forms have been framed by clerks and by practitioners, and many of these have found their way into the various works on bankruptcy. But the collection here presented is twice as large as any other with which this writer is familiar, and seems to include a form for nearly every situation that can be imagined. Moreover, most of the forms have actually been passed on in litigated cases, and all are adequately annotated, so that the path of the draftsman is smoothed and lighted and guarded for him. The arrangement of the form-book does not follow that of the text-book, but the different forms are readily found by means of a complete table of contents and an excellent index.

E. H.

THE TWO HAGUE CONFERENCES. By Joseph H. Choate. Princeton University Press, Princeton, 1913, xiv, 109.

In appointing Mr. Choate as Stafford Little Lecturer on Public Affairs for 1912, Princeton obtained a worthy successor to Grover Cleveland and George B. McClellan, the previous holders of the lectureship. And whoever it was that chose the subject for Mr. Choate's lectures, he was happy in selecting a topic on which the lecturer could speak with authority, for, as is pointed out in the excellent introduction by Professor James Brown Scott, Mr. Choate

was an important contributing factor in the success of the second Hague Conference.

The lectures point out briefly the results of the two conferences of 1899 and 1907. The Conference of 1899, though resulting in the establishment of the permanent International Court of Arbitration and in the agreement as to special mediation in case of controversies between nations, was chiefly effective, in the opinion of Mr. Choate, in bringing about a better understanding among the nations of the world, and thus paving the way for the success of the second Conference. Indeed, Mr. Choate, in speaking of this phase of the work of the Conference, seems to have anticipated Lord Haldane's international *sittlichkeit* when he speaks of "that decent regard for the opinion of mankind, to which nations as well as men are bound to account for their conduct."

The results of the second Conference in 1907 are briefly set down. The agreement to submit to arbitration all questions of recovery of debts owing from one nation to the citizens of another, was a distinct achievement on the part of the representatives of the United States. The establishment of the International Court of Appeal in Prize Cases was another result of this Conference. And Mr. Choate points out that even the failures—or the unaccomplished attempts—of this Conference were of great effect in crystallizing international sentiment on important matters, and may bring about concrete results at the next Conference.

An appendix, largely bibliographical, adds to the value of the work. It is unfortunate that the otherwise excellent mechanical make-up of the volume is marred by slipshod proof-reading.